



INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Lori Torres, Inspector General

OFFICE: INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (INDOT)

TITLE: INDOT FUEL THEFT AND GHOST EMPLOYMENT

CASE ID: 2016-09-0196

DATE: August 15, 2017

The Inspector General's Chief Legal Counsel, Tiffany Mulligan, after an investigation by Special Agent Mark Mitchell, reports as follows:

The Indiana General Assembly has charged the Office of Inspector General (OIG) with addressing fraud, waste, abuse, and wrongdoing in agencies. Ind. Code § 4-2-7-2(b). The OIG also investigates alleged criminal activity and ethics violations by state employees. Ind. Code § 4-2-7-3.

On September 22, 2016, the Inspector General received an anonymous hotline complaint regarding two Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) employees (the Employees). The complaint alleged that the Employees were falsifying their time logs and allowing staff members to falsify their time logs. The complaint also alleged that the Employees were stealing gasoline for their personal use. Special Agent Mark Mitchell conducted an investigation regarding the alleged fuel theft and ghost employment.

Special Agent Mitchell received initial information for his investigation from INDOT's Internal Affairs Division. This included INDOT policies and procedures, fuel transaction reports, time and labor reports, and vehicle and equipment summaries.

Special Agent Mitchell interviewed several individuals, including the Employees' supervisors and coworkers. He learned that INDOT documents all fuel purchases on the credit card that is assigned to the individual employee. The employee is then required to log the purchase and turn in a receipt, which INDOT audits with the statements from the credit card company. Special Agent Mitchell also learned that INDOT installed Telematics, which is GPS tracking software, on their vehicles in May of 2016. INDOT managers use Telematics to randomly verify vehicle locations are consistent with job assignments. In this case, neither the fuel receipts for the Employees nor the Telematics GPS tracking system raised a red flag on fuel theft or misuse of the Employees' assigned vehicles.

Special Agent Mitchell's investigation revealed no evidence of fuel theft or ghost employment by either of the Employees; therefore, the OIG is closing this case for insufficient cause. Should additional information be brought forward, the OIG may reexamine this initial evaluation.

Dated: August 15, 2017

APPROVED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Torres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lori Torres, Inspector General